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The seven hundred and thirty-sixth Meeting of the Club was held in the Senior Common Room, South Side, Imperial College, London, S.W.7 on Tuesday 15 September 1981 at 7 p.m. The attendance was 19 Members and 8 guests.

Members present were: B. GRAY (*Chairman*), Major N. A. G. H. BEAL, R.M., K. F. BETTON, Mrs DIANA BRADLEY, R. A. N. CROUCHER, Sir HUGH ELLIOTT, Bt., D. J. FISHER, D. GRIFFIN, Revd. G. K. McCULLOCH, C. J. MEAD, Mrs U. V. MEAD, Dr J. F. MONK, J. G. PARKER, R. E. F. PEAL, R. C. PRICE, P. S. REDMAN, S. A. H. STATHAM, C. E. WHEELER and Lieut.-Col. T. C. WHITE.

Guests present were: Miss M. BARRY, D. BRADLEY, Miss D. BURGESS, Miss S. P. F. DIXON, J. KING, Dr AMICIA MELLAND, J. M. A. OSBORNE and K. D. SHARP.

Mr C. J. Mead gave an illustrated address on "Autumn birds in Texas". He described the habitats which he had visited and the birds there. He showed excellent slides of a large number of these species photographed by him in the hand or in the field.

The seven hundred and thirty-seventh Meeting of the Club was held in the Senior Common Room, South Side, Imperial College, London, S.W.7 on Tuesday 17 November 1981 at 7 p.m. The attendance was 29 Members and 20 guests.

Members present were: D. R. CALDER (*Chairman*), Mrs S. VERE BENSON, K. F. BETTON, Dr G. BEVEN, Mrs DIANA BRADLEY, P. L. BRITTON, P. J. CONDER, S. CRAMP, R. A. N. CROUCHER, J. H. ELGOOD, Sir HUGH ELLIOTT, Bt., R. J. FARMER, D. J. FISHER, A. GIBBS, B. GRAY, D. GRIFFIN, M. C. HODGSON, P. HOGG, J. KING, Revd. G. K. McCULLOCH, Dr J. F. MONK, P. J. OLIVER, J. G. PARKER, R. E. F. PEAL, P. S. REDMAN, P. J. SELLAR, Professor G. H. N. SETON-WATSON, A. VITTERY and C. E. WHEELER.

Guests present were: Miss M. BARRY, Mrs G. BEVEN, Miss D. BURGESS, P. CLEMENT, S. E. CHAPMAN, Miss SARAH CONDER, Dr A. W. DIAMOND, Dr E. K. DUNN, Mrs S. FRANCIS, Mrs B. M. GIBBS, PETER HAYMAN, Mrs M. McMILLAN, Mrs DIANA MONK, Miss M. SAUNDERS, Mr and Mrs G. H. SEARLE, Mrs M. H. SETON-WATSON, R. E. SHARLAND, P. J. STRANGEMAN and M. G. WILSON.

Mr Peter Hayman spoke on "Seabirds" and described those which he had seen in the South Atlantic and Pacific. He dealt especially with the distinctive differences in flight in otherwise similar species (mostly Procellariiformes), sufficient to identify them in the air. These were due to dissimilarities in the proportions of the bodies of the birds, which raised taxonomic problems of much interest, which he is continuing to investigate. He showed slides to illustrate his address.

New races of montane birds from Kenya and southern Sudan

(continued)

by G. R. Cunningham-van Someren and Herbert Schifter

Received 4 December 1980

COSSYPHA CYANOCAMPTER Blue-shouldered Robin Chat

Our first series, taken in 1978, of this far from common bird consisted of 6 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 2 sub-adults and an immature ♀ from North Nandi. In 1979 a further 12 specimens were secured in the southern portion of the forest. These have been compared with material from Kakamega Forest, Uganda

and Rwanda. The North Nandi birds are quite distinct, being generally paler and yellower than other races. Through the kindness of Major Melvin Traylor we have received a ♂ (wing 84.0 mm) and ♀ (wing 72.0 mm) collected at Giloon, the Imatong Mountains, Southern Sudan, 4° 02'N, 32° 51'E at 2100 m in February 1977. These are referred to as *bartteloti* by Cave & MacDonald (1955). However they are much paler altogether than examples of *bartteloti* from elsewhere. White (1962) includes the Imatong Mountains within the range of *bartteloti* and notes "darker rufous below" for that race. With more material this very isolated population of the Imatong might be deserving of racial recognition.

Kenya specimens have in the past been referred to *bartteloti* (van Someren 1932; Jackson 1938 and more recently Friedmann & Williams 1970 and Ripley & Bond 1971) and more particularly those from Kakamega and Uganda. Rwanda specimens are much paler than those from Kakamega and Uganda, nearer to the North Nandi specimens, but they are referred to nevertheless as *bartteloti* by Prigogine (1971). White (1962) included West Kenya within the range of *bartteloti*.

For the North Nandi birds we propose a new race:—

Cossypha cyanocampter pallidiventris subsp. nov.

Holotype: adult ♂ Reg. No. 17636/796, in National Museum, Nairobi, Kenya, Field No. 276. Collected on track Kamwega-Kipsamoiti, North Nandi Forest, Kenya, 0° 20'N, 34° 58'E at 2133 m by Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien and National Museum, Kenya Joint Expedition on 17.xi. 1978. Gonads enlarged.

Description: Crown and cheeks black with white supercillium to nape. Back Slate Colour with distinct blue edges to feathers. Rump Dark Olive. Thighs and undertail coverts Honey Yellow. Tail, central pair rectrices black, others with inner web rufous, outer black. Wings black, outer web of primaries and secondaries narrowly edged blue. Angle of wing and lesser wing coverts Yale Blue. Throat and upper breast and flanks Honey Yellow to Yellow Ochre at flanks. Paler mid-breast to belly Deep Colonial Buff to nearly white at crissum. Iris dark brown. Bill black. Legs pinkish-grey to mauve. Altogether paler, yellower than *bartteloti* as represented by birds from Kakamega and Uganda and paler than Rwanda examples. Kakamega and Uganda specimens are Antimony Yellow on throat to Yellow Ochre on breast and the belly is not so white but buffy tinged.

Sub-adults: still with a few buff-tipped feathers on coverts, more olive on the back than adults and slightly more ochreous on the breast and flanks, but white on the lower belly to crissum. Backs of males are slightly darker than females.

Weight and measurements: Wing 85.0 mm, tail 75.0 mm, bill 13.0 mm. Weight 32.0 g. Paratypes: collected at the same site as the holotype between 9.xi and 20.xii.1978. Wings ♂♂, mean 82.4 (81.0–84.0) mm; ♀♀ mean 76.1 (73.0–79.0) mm; sub-adults 74.0 & 79.0 mm. Weights, ♂♂, mean 29.3 (27.0–32.0) g, ♀♀, mean 27.2 (24.4–30.5) g. Sub-adults, 29.0 & 30.0 g.

In addition to the above we have a ♂ topotype taken in another section of the North Nandi Forest by V. C. Fayad on 8.i.1978 with wing 85.0 mm and weight 30.0 g. The finding of *C. cyanocampter* in the North Nandi represents a slight eastward extension of range and in altitude.

NEOCOSSYPHUS POENSIS White-tailed Ant-Thrush

White (1962) does not include any locality in Kenya for this species. Similarly there is no plot shown for Kenya in Hall & Moreau (1970). Zimmerman & Mumford (1965) discuss 3 specimens taken in Kakamega Forest, Western Kenya in 1963 and write "do not agree particularly well with specimens of *praepectoralis* or of the nominate race, their colouration is seemingly somewhat intermediate between the two". Their wings 105.0, 109.0 and 110.0 mm fall within the range of *praepectoralis*. Ripley & Bond (1971) record *N. poensis* erroneously "for the first time", based on birds from Kakamega, 1964-1966.

Zimmerman (1972), who had 8 Kakamega examples, wrote "viewed as a series, Kakamega birds are darker ventrally, with rather distinct olive upper breast and sides of chest and a greyer throat. The undertail coverts tend to be rather more heavily streaked and the spot on the outer rectrix is considerably larger in most Kakamega birds". The average length of the white tail spot was 33.6 for ♂♂ and 34.3 mm for ♀♀. In 5 Kakamega examples in the NMN these spots measure 31.0 and 32.0 mm for ♂♂ and 31.0, 31.0 and 34.0 mm for ♀♀. This character is evidently unreliable for racial distinction and similarly the amount of white on the outer tail feathers (White 1962), as one North Nandi specimen has one outer rectrix with white on the outer web.

If all Uganda birds are *praepectoralis* (see Keith *et al.* (1969) for the Kayonsa (Impenetrable) Forest and Friedmann & Williams (1969, '70, '71, '73) for the Malabigambo, Kalinzu, Bwamba and Budongo Forests), then we would agree with Zimmerman (1972) that the Kakamega birds differ in the way he describes, while the North Nandi examples differ considerably from the Kakamega series and from *praepectoralis*.

The NMN holds 5 Kakamega specimens which we now regard as a good race and we therefore propose that they be known as:—

***Neocossyphus poensis kakamegoes* subsp. nov.**

Holotype: ♂ Reg. No. 12321/802 in National Museum, Nairobi, Kenya, collected in Kakamega Forest near Forest Station, 0° 15'N, 34° 50'E, on 11.xii.1966 by I. Bampton.

Description: Head, with scaly appearance, and back Chaetura Drab. Tail black, white spot on tail 31.0 mm. Throat Buffy Brown, sharply defined from upper breast which is near Brownish Olive. Lower breast Tawny Olive, belly richer rufous but not as intense as in *praepectoralis* (Uganda birds) or birds from North Nandi. Outer web of primaries Rood's Brown.

Weight and measurements: Wing 103.0 mm, tail 88.0 mm, bill 13.0 mm. Paratypes: ♀. Reg. No. 12322/802, collected Kakamega Forest Station on 9.xii.1966 by A. D. Forbes-Watson, wing 107.0 mm. White tail spot 31.0 mm, weight 48.5 g. ♀ Reg. No. 12323/802, collected by A. D. Forbes-Watson at Kakamega Forest Station on 11.xii.1966, wing 113.0 mm, white tail spot 34.0 mm, weight 57.5 g. ♀ Reg. No. 12324/802 collected same place as others, wing 104.0 mm, white tail spot 32.0 mm, weight 56.0 g. All these specimens are recorded as having iris earth brown, bill black, feet pale flesh. In addition one topotypical ♂ Reg. No. 12320/802 from the same locality was collected by A. L. Archer on 20.ii.1973, wing 103.0 mm, white spot 32.0 mm, weight 56.0 g.

Birds from the North Nandi when placed alongside these Kakamega specimens are clearly much darker and we have no hesitation in describing them as:—

Neocossyphus poensis nigridorsalis subsp. nov.

Holotype: ♂ Reg. No. 17592/802 in National Museum, Nairobi, Kenya collected on track 7, swamp area, Kamwega-Kipsamoiti track, North Nandi Forest, Western Kenya, 0° 20'N, 34° 58'E at 2133 m on 12.xii.1978 by Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien and National Museum, Kenya Joint Expedition.

Description: Crown (scaly) and back to upper tail coverts Blackish Brown. Tail Jet Black, outer rectrix white spot 31.0 mm. Throat slightly paler than breast, Tawny Olive, slightly scaly in appearance. Belly Dresden Brown with flanks Antique Brown, not as rich rufous as *praepectoralis*. Outer web of primaries Walnut Brown compared with Russet of *praepectoralis*. Undertail coverts each with a dark shaft and narrow dark fringe of Antique Brown. Iris recorded as brown-chestnut, bill black. Legs pinkish with grey tinge.

Weight and measurements: Wing 112.0 mm, tail 98.0 mm, white spot on tail 31.0 mm, bill 14.0 mm, weight 48.0 g. Paratypes: All from the same area of Kamwega Kipamoiti, North Nandi Forest, collected on dates between 9.xi and 20.xii.1978 by the joint expedition. ♂ Reg. No. 17593/802, wing 102.0 mm, white spot 34.0 mm, weight 50.0 g. ♀ Reg. No. 17595/802, non-breeding, wing 50.0 mm, white spot 33.0 mm, weight 50.5 g. ♀ Reg. No. 17494/802 111.0 mm, white spot 30.0 mm, weight 55.5 g. In addition, one topotype ♂ was collected by V. C. Fayad in the same forest on 5.i.1978, Reg. No. 17196/802, wing 105.0 mm, white spot 33.0 mm, weight 55.0 g. Another series taken in 1979 in the same forest but further south near Chemisia, 0° 15'N, 35° 00'E, match the type series.

These new races have been compared directly with specimens from the Budongo, Malabigambo, Kayonsa and Bwamba Forests, all low country forests between 1000 m and 1370 m. The highland race from the North Nandi is by far the darkest. Kakamegoes is the original orthography.

BLEDA SYNDACTYLA Bristlebill

We have compared our North Nandi birds with specimens from the Kakamega Forest and the forests of Uganda. Most recent writers have referred birds from Kakamega and Uganda to the race *woosnami* of Ogilvie-Grant (Keith *et al.* (1969), Friedmann & Williams (1969, '70, '71, '73) for Uganda forests, Ripley & Bond (1971) for Kakamega, and Zimmerman (1972)). The type locality of *woosnami* is the Mpanga Forest (=Kibale) of Uganda.

When a series is laid out it becomes instantly apparent that the North Nandi birds are decidedly greener, darker on the dorsal surface and brighter altogether ventrally. We see little difference between birds from Kakamega and Uganda, though in series the latter appear more brownish olive on the back.

We feel these North Nandi birds deserve sub-specific distinction and therefore describe them as:—

Bleda syndactyla nandensis subsp. nov.

Holotype: ♂ Reg. No. 17603/692, Field No. 54, in National Museum,

Nairobi, Kenya. Collected on track 3 off the road Kamwega-Kipsamoiti, North Nandi Forest, Western Kenya, $0^{\circ} 20' N$, $34^{\circ} 58' E$ at 2133 m on 9.xi.1978 by Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien and National Museum, Kenya Joint Expedition.

Description: Throat distinct Lemon Yellow. Breast to belly Empire Yellow. Flanks and sides of upper breast Warbler Green. Back dark Greenish Olive. Intense black streak below eye. Head dark, but only just darker than back, Olivaceous Black. Inner web of primaries almost black with greenish outer web. Tail rich Rufous. Iris red-brown, eye-ring light blue. Upper bill dark horn, lower pale bluish. Legs pinkish flesh tinged brown. For comparison with Kakamega birds we record colours as follows:—Throat Picric Yellow, belly Lemon Yellow, flanks Citrine, back Brownish Olive. Head distinctly darker than the back which is Olivaceous Black, wings dark greyish-brown with grey outer webs. There is a dark streak below the eye.

Weight and measurements: Wing 109.0 mm, bill 21.0 mm, tail 100.0 mm, weight 47.5 g. Paratypes: ♂ Reg. No. 17604/692, gonads enlarging, wing 112.0 mm, bill 21.0 mm, weight 48.0 g. ♂ Reg. No. 17605/692, gonads large, wing 105.0 mm, bill 21.5 mm, weight 45.4 g. ♀ Reg. No. 17607/692, slight ovarian development, wing 101.0 mm, bill 18.0 mm, weight 45.0 g. ♀ Reg. No. 17608/692, non-breeding, wing 102.0 mm, bill 20.0 mm, weight 40.0 g. All collected in the same area as holotype between 9.xi and 20.xii.1978. All in NMN. A further series of 5 specimens taken in 1979 in the same forest but further south near Chemisia, $0^{\circ} 15' N$, $35^{\circ} 00' E$, match the type series.

Measurements are of interest and Bergman's Rule applies in that the high altitude North Nandi birds at 2133 m run larger than the Kakamega (300 m lower) and Uganda specimens. Mean for North Nandi ♂♂, 108.6 (105–112.0) mm, ♀♀ 101.5 (101.0–102.0) mm while 6 Kakamega ♂♂ have mean 103 (99.0–107.0) mm and ♀♀ mean 100.0 (98.5–102.0) mm. Uganda ♂♂ have mean 103.0 (98.0–110.0) mm, ♀♀ mean 95.0 (93.0–98.0) mm. The Uganda specimens are from the low lying Bwamba Forest (c. 1000 m) and 2 from Kibale Forest (c. 1525 m).

PHYLLASTREPHUS PLACIDUS Placid Greenbul

Dowsett (1972) has clarified the relationships of *P. cabanisi*, *P. placidus* and *P. fischeri*. In the past the highland or montane Kenya birds have been assigned to *P. fischeri cabanisi* (e.g Ripley & Bond 1971) or *P. cabanisi sucosus* (Zimmerman 1972), particularly those birds from the Kakamega Forest, which now, following Dowsett, should be *P. placidus sucosus*.

It was natural that we should firstly compare our long North Nandi series with birds from Mount Elgon, Kakamega and Kapenguria, then with examples from elsewhere. It was quickly apparent that the North Nandi series differed markedly from birds from all other localities, firstly being bright yellow on the belly with a clear pale throat and dark chest, but with a striking feature to be seen in the remiges, the outer webs of which were Buffy Citrine and the inner virtually black without any trace of the Brussels Brown of birds from Kakamega and Kapenguria. A single male from Mount Elgon approaches the North Nandi birds but the coverts are brownish and not Olive Green. On the ventral surface the Elgon example is not as bright as the Nandi, and the Kakamega specimens also are duller.

We are unable to match the North Nandi birds with those from Rapogi,

Kilgoris, Ngare Ngare to the Nguruman Range, South Western Kenya or birds from Equator, Mau Narok or Mau Escarpment, west of the Rift Valley and propose to designate the North Nandi birds as a new race, as

Phyllastrephus placidus nandensis subsp. nov.

Holotype: ♂, Reg. No. 17662/685, Field No 229, in National Museum, Nairobi, Kenya, collected on track from Kamwega to Kipsamoiti, North Nandi Forest, Western Kenya, 0° 20'N, 34° 58'E at 2133 m on 16.xi.1978 by Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien and National Museum, Kenya Joint Expedition.

Description: Iris recorded as pale brown, bill dark horn paler at tip and tomium, lower mandible with pale base. Legs dark olive-grey. Head, crown to nape, dark Greenish Olive with a slightly scaly appearance due to narrow pale fringe to each feather. Back to rump, Olive, paler than the head. Rump lighter olive. Upper tail coverts Tawny Olive to Yellowish Olive. Tail dorsal surface light Brownish Olive to Sepia at shaft, undersurface Medal Bronze. Chin and throat Martin's Yellow. Sides of breast, Kronberg Green wash. Central belly to vent Picric Yellow with some slightly darker or denser streaks at upper breast of yellow. Wings, primaries and secondaries Buffy Olive edged to Buffy Citrine, inner webs almost black. Wing coverts similar to back.

Thus the back of the North Nandi bird is green, that of *sucosus* from other localities has a brownish wash. The wings of *sucosus* are brown and the rectrices more chestnut, throat and belly not so yellow, flanks paler. In the North Nandi birds the dark colour forms a distinct band across the chest. Specimens from the Nguruman Range are not quite so yellow, browner on the wings but otherwise similar, though distinct. Kapenguria examples are duller on the ventral side and have brownish wings, while birds from Equator are nearer *placidus*. All races are brighter than examples from Ngare Ngare.

Weight and measurements: Wing 80.0 mm, tail 77.0 mm, bill 15.0 mm, weight 25.5 g. Paratypes: 24 ♂♂ and 21 ♀♀. Sexes alike. All taken at the same site as holotype between 9.xi and 20.xii.1978. Wings ♂♂, mean 80.4 mm (78.0-85.0) mm; ♀♀, mean 76.2 (70.0-77.0) mm. Tails ♂♂, 77.0-85.0 mm; ♀♀, 68.0-84.0 mm. Wing/tail ratio, ♂♂, 98.2, ♀♀, 103.9. There is no consistency between wing/tail measurements: in ♂♂ 16 had tails shorter and 7 longer than ♀♀, ranging from 4.0 mm longer to 7.5 mm shorter. In ♀♀ the tails of 11 were shorter and 9 were longer than ♂♂, ranging from 10.0 mm longer to 6.0 mm shorter (cf. Dowsett 1972). Another series of 17 specimens secured in 1979 from the same forest near Chemisia match the type series.

The birds from the Nguruman Range, an isolated, well forested range rising to c. 2400 m, south of the Mau, west of the Rift Valley, as noted above show some similarity to the North Nandi race and we consider them worthy of recognition as

Phyllastrephus placidus ngurumanensis subsp. nov.

Holotype: ♂, Reg. No. 16438/685, in National Museum, Nairobi, Kenya, from Kipurses, Nguruman Range, Kenya 1° 33'S, 36° 10'E, at 1500 m, collected 9.xi.1976 by V. C. Fayad.

Description: Data recorded gave iris dark brown, bill brownish yellow and feet grey. Head, with faint scaly appearance and back down to rump Olive Citrine. Upper tail coverts Sepia. Upper tail surface Sepia. Chin, throat

pale, streaked with Barium Yellow. Upper breast Olive streaked with Barium Yellow, the olive forming a band across the chest. Lower breast to belly streaked Barium Yellow, more extensive towards the crissum, yellower at mid-belly. Flanks dull Citrine. Undertail coverts yellowish. Wings, primaries and secondaries edged Dresden Brown, inner web of primaries almost black. Coverts Olive Brown. Sexes alike. On the ventral surface not as bright as birds from North Nandi and the breast band not so pronounced.

Weight and Measurements: Wing 83.5 mm, tail 78.0 mm, bill 15.0 mm, weight 23.0 g. Paratypes: ♀, Reg. No. 16440/685 from Kipurses, 12.xi.1976, wing 79.0 mm, tail 88.0 mm, weight 20.5 g. ♂, Reg. No. 16439/685 from Kipurses, 13.xi.1976, wing 88.0 mm, tail 87.0 mm. Both collected by V. C. Fayad. Additional examples: ♀ Reg. No. 12960/685 from Olengakuala Stream, Nguruman Range collected 14.iv.1976, wing 76.0 mm, tail 73.0 mm. ♂, Reg. No. 12959/685 from Olengakuala Stream, 14.iv.1976, wing 84.0 mm, tail 82.0 mm, weight 26.0 g. ♂, Reg. No. 12961/685, 18.iv.1976, wing 83.0 mm, tail 80.0 mm, weight 28.0 g. All collected by T. O. Osborne and in NMN.

SPERMOPHAGA RUFICAPILLA Red-headed Bluebill

We carefully compared our North Nandi series with material from elsewhere in Kenya and find little difference. However, we did find in the NMN a small series of birds collected at Kilgoris, near Kisii, Western Kenya with a distinctly different plumage particularly with respect to the sub-adults. Kilgoris is an interesting locality, for to-day most of the forested areas have been cleared and only riverine gallery forest remains in a few scattered locations. In a direct comparison with *S.r. ruficapilla* we find the following differences:—

	Kilgoris	Kakamega & Nandi
♂	Back, Dull Slate Black	Plumbeous Black with a sheen
♀	Back, Dark Mouse Grey, dull	Deep Neutral Grey
♂	Head, Nopal Red	Nopal Red
♀	Head, Nopal Red	Scarlet Red
♀	Belly, White spots on grey	white spots on black

In addition, the bills of the Kilgoris birds are fractionally (1–2 mm) shorter and stubbier.

However, it is in the sub-adult that the differences are more striking. The Kilgoris male has the chest Prout's Brown above intermingled greyish-brown on the lower belly, whereas *ruficapilla* of the same age (from Nandi and Kakamega) is Mummy Brown (darker) over Chaetura Black. Both sub-adults compared had the first red crown feathers just appearing.

We therefor propose to designate a new sub-species:—

Spermophaga ruficapilla kilgoris subsp. nov.

Holotype: Sub-adult ♂, Reg. No. 14049/1106, in National Museum, Nairobi, Kenya, collected at Kilgoris, South West Kenya, on 8.ii.1963. Collector unknown.

Description: Wing 69.0 mm. Crown to nape Chaetura Drab tinged brownish. Back Fuscous Black. Tail black. Throat to upper breast Prout's Brown. Lower breast and belly, mixed, almost speckled, Prout's Brown and Fuscous Black. Bill stubby, blue-black with tomium pinkish. Paratypes: Adult ♂, Reg. No. 14037/1106. Back and belly Slate Black. Head to nape, breast Nopal Red. Bill iridescent bluish, tomium and base of upper bill pinkish,

tip pink. Collected at Kilgoris, 15.ii.1963. Collector unknown. Weight 26.0 g. Wing 68.0 mm. ♀, Reg. No. 14043/1106. Head, nape, breast and flanks Nopal Red. Belly with rounded white spots on light grey background. Back, dark Mouse Grey, very dull. Collected at Kilgoris, 24.i.1963, collector unknown. Wing 67.5 mm. ♀, Reg. No. 14048/1106, as above, collected 3.ii.1963. Wing 65.0 mm. Weight 24.0 g. ♀, Reg. No. 14048/1106, as above, collected Kilgoris on 20.i.1963. Wing 65.0 mm. All specimens in National Museum, Nairobi.

Mackworth-Praed & Grant (1957) state "juvenile is sooty black above and rather browner below, bill as in adult". This is erroneous as all juveniles have black bills and the blue iridescent bill is not assumed until the bird is an advanced sub-adult and the first red feathering of the head has appeared. This is very clear from our long series taken at North Nandi of juveniles and sub-adults. The gape in the juveniles is yellow, the palate has 3 blackish spots in triangle formation and there are 2 upper and 2 lower gape papillae, yellow in colour.

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Postscript: In the first part of this paper (101(3): 384) we described a new race of the Olive Thrush from North Nandi Forest, Western Kenya as *Turdus abyssinicus fuscatus*, type locality Kipsamoiti-Kamwega, 0°20'N, 34°58'E. Dr. Wolters of Museum Alexander Koenig in Bonn, Germany has kindly pointed out that this name is pre-occupied by *Turdus fuscatus* Vieillot, *Hist. Nat. Oiseaux Amer.* Sept. 2, t. 57, 1808, (= *Margarops fuscatus* (Vieillot), Mimidae) and by *Turdus fuscatus* Pallas, *Zoogr. Rosso-Asiat.*, 1, Taf. 12, 1811, (= *Turdus naumanni eunomus* Temm.). We therefore propose

***Turdus abyssinicus porini* nomen novem**

for *T. a fuscatus* C-van Someren & Schifter. Etymology from Kiswahili, *pori*=a forest thus *porini*=of the forest.

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Notes on some Surinam birds

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Since publication of *Birds of Surinam* (Haverschmidt 1968), additions to the Surinam avifauna have been reported by Mees (1968, 1973, 1974, 1976, 1977), Renssen (1974a), de Jong and Holthuijzen (1977), Trail (1978) and Davis (1979). Lists with additional information on Surinam birds have also been published since by Haverschmidt (1972, 1975), Renssen (1974b) and Spaans (1978 a & b).

These notes present observations on occurrence, habitat preference, nesting behaviour, breeding seasons or feeding behaviour of 17 species of Surinam birds. They extend Haverschmidt (1968) and are given his numbering, and were obtained during 2 visits of 4 weeks to Surinam in April 1979 and April 1980. A group of Dutch ornithologists including Dr. A. L. Spaans were involved in observations of 1979 indicated with an *. Most data were collected in the Brownsberg and Raleighfalls-Voltzberg nature reserves managed by Stinasu (Foundation for Nature Preservation in Surinam).

SPECIES OBSERVED

3. *Crypturellus soui* Little Tinamou. On 25 April 1979, I was shown a nest of this tinamou by a member of the Stinasu staff on Brownsberg. Two glossy reddish violet eggs lay in a scrape in dead leaves on the ground among very dense vegetation covering a bank, approximately 0.5 m away from the higher